



# Washington Academic Internship Program (WAIP)

## Project Description

My STEP Project was the Washington Academic Internship Program. I spent three months living and working in Washington, DC. The primary goal of this program is to gain substantial study and work experience in policy and public service in our nation's capital. This program requires its fellows to be active in six specific areas: internship, seminar, policy salons, professional development, study tours, and a mentor program. I was required to take three Public Affairs courses and intern four days a week. My internship placement was in the Office of Senator Sherrod Brown. Also, there were mandatory professional development workshops and seminars, and study tours of the city every Friday.

## What motivated me to choose this project?

My primary motivation was to go to DC to gain experience in the federal government. As a political science major, I wanted to be able to intern on Capitol Hill before I graduated to see if working on the hill is something I would want to pursue after undergrad. Also, I wanted to live in a new city for a couple of months and make new friends. WAIP provided all of these opportunities as well as 12 credit hours to count toward graduation, so I put my best foot forward and applied.



Name: Jasmine Anthony

STEP Project Category: Internship

STEP Instructor: Lin Ding

Major: Political Science



## What was transformational about the project?

I learned so much about the federal government, public policy, and myself. I had never lived or been away from home for so long and living in DC showed me that I can live away from home on my own. I made tremendous connections within my cohort of classmates and working professionals that will afford me to go back to DC and work on Capitol Hill again if I wanted to, and I gained a lifelong friend and mentor who was very instrumental in helping my personal and professional growth over the summer.



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